

PROCLAMATION

BY THE

Governor of the State of Texas

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

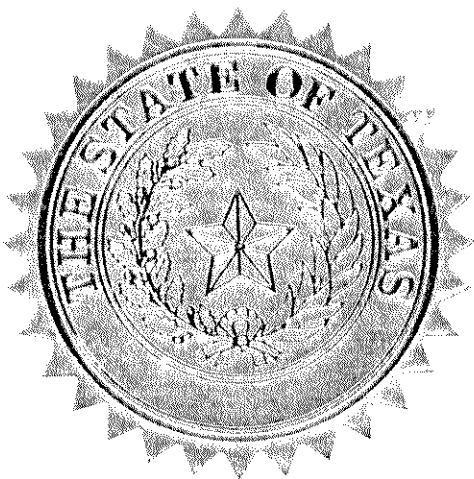
Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14, of the Texas Constitution, I, Rick Perry, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove of and veto Senate Bill No. 960 as passed by the Eightieth Texas Legislature, Regular Session, because of the following objections:

Senate Bill No. 960 would exempt dependents of military personnel from passing the exit-level Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) test if the students transfer into the Texas public school system after they complete their sophomore year in high school. Instead of taking the TAKS, the commissioner of education would determine appropriate performance levels on other nationally recognized norm-referenced assessment instruments in order to satisfy the graduation requirements and qualify for a Texas diploma.

The strength of our accountability system is derived from having a common standard for all students. Allowing exemptions from this standard decreases the value of a Texas diploma. And I believe all Texas students are capable of success.

Instead of singling out a particular group of students, I am directing the Texas Education Agency to study the challenges faced by transfer students and propose viable options to address this problem to the 81st Legislature.

Since the Legislature by its adjournment has prevented the return of this bill, I am filing these objections in the office of the Secretary of State and giving notice thereof by this public proclamation according to the aforementioned constitutional provision.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this 15th day of June, 2007.

Rick Perry

RICK PERRY
Governor of Texas

ATTESTED BY:

Roger Williams
ROGER WILLIAMS
Secretary of State

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
O'CLOCK

JUN 15 2007